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U.S. Serial # 10/600,287

Prototype Independent Claim #1

- 1. A selectively electroplated article, said article having multiple surface portions, said article characterized as having,
 - a first of said surface portions comprising electrodeposited metal in direct contact with a first material mix, said mix comprising a polymeric matrix, a conductive filler and an electrodeposit coverage rate accelerator,
 - said first material mix being selectively patterned and positioned on an
 electrically insulating second material whereby a second of said multiple surface
 portions is defined by a remaining exposed surface of said second material, said
 exposed surface being substantially devoid of electrodeposited metal.

Support for claim 1 limitation language:

- "electrically insulating" is defined in Paragraph 0103.
- "exposed surface" is defined in paragraph 0104 as a surface "which is intended to contact the electroplating solution when the structure is immersed in an electroplating bath".
- "surface defined by material" and "material forming a surface" is discussed in paragraph 0130.

Logic and distinguishing language:

If one uses a mask, the masking material is <u>on</u> the surface for which plating is to be prevented. In the claim, the plateable material is <u>on</u> the second material, so the second material cannot be a mask. There is no reason or purpose for a masking operation.

- Hans and Bogard use a mask. Neither Hans nor Bogard teach positioning of either a first or second material as defined by the claim.
- Adelman is silent concerning a second insulating material and selective plating.
 Adelman does not teach the "electrodeposit coverage rate accelerator required by the claim.

Kawai is silent concerning a second insulating material as required by the claim. Kawai is also silent regarding selective plating and the special requirements associated with selective electroplating. The relatively thick electrodeposits reported by Kawai actually teach away from adopting the teaching for selective electroplating.

U.S. Serial # 10/600,287

Prototype Independent claim #2

- 2. An article characterized as having multiple surface regions and having,
 - a first molded material forming an exposed first surface region,
 - a second molded material defining a second surface region, said second material comprising a polymeric matrix, a conductive filler and an electrodeposit coverage rate accelerator,
 - said second surface region comprising an electrodeposited metal in direct contact with said second material,
 - said exposed first surface region being substantially devoid of electrodeposited metal.

Support for claim 2 limitation language:

Support for claim #2 can be found in Figures 1, 3, and 7-9, and the related discussion of these figures in the Specification as filed, and in Examples 1 and 3.

<u>U.S. Serial # 10/600,287</u>

Prototype Independent Claim #3

- 3. A selectively electroplated article, said article having multiple surface portions, said article characterized as having,
 - a first of said surface portions comprising a generally planar form of
 electrodeposited metal coating in direct contact with a generally planar form of a
 first material mix, said mix comprising a polymeric matrix, a conductive filler and
 an electrodeposit coverage rate accelerator,
 - a second of said surface portions being formed by an insulating second material,
 - edge portions of said first and second materials being joined along a boundary with substantially abutting positioning.

Support for claim 3 limitation language:

Support for claim #3 can be found in Figures 10 through 11A and Figures 15 through 22 and the related discussion of these figures in the Specification as filed.